

Steenwich
**A
TRUE DECLARA-
tion of the streight sledge laide
to the Citty of Steenwich, and of the Skir-
mishes and Battailes which happened on
both sides, very strange and
aduenturous.**

1592 —
Heerevnto is also annexed, in what maner the
Enemie besought to parley with *Counte*
Maurice his Excellency, conserning the yeel-
ding vp of the Citty into his hands.

Together with the yeelding vp
of the same.

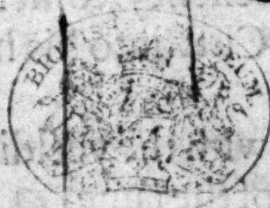
Printed first in Dutch, and truely translated
into English, by I. T.



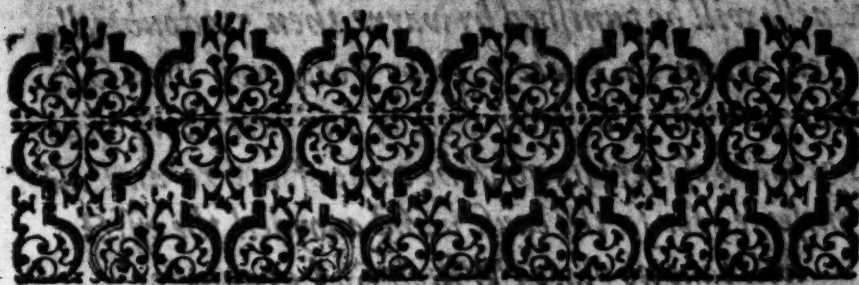
L O N D O N

Printed by John Wolfe, and are to be solde
at his shop, right ouer against the great
South doore of Poules.

1592,

[illegible]

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The Translators Preface to the Reader.



Entle Reader, as you maye by this
present declaration perceyue the
miseries and calamities which are
dayly suffered in the Low-coun-
tries by the people there, so can you
not but withall acknowledge how
greatly you are bounden vnto almightie God for all
the benefits wherewith it hath pleased his Diuine
maiestie so many yeares to blesse our countrie for these
foure and thirtie yeares and more, what age hath
seene a more happie estate than ours? What Nation
hath had so well guided a gouernment as this? what
people haue inioyed the free disposing of themselves
and their goods more than we? what countrie vnder
the vail of heauen hath bene more adorned with the
ensignes of peace than England? O England! Eng-
land! Peace hath bene thy blisse, Take heed it be not
thy bane. For if through peace you become so put out
of memory of warre, that the remembrance thereof is
not able to put you in mind how ingratitude and wic-
kednesse

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kednesse will be punished by warre, then undoubtedly
as you growe by Peace, so by Peace you shall fall.
Wherefore let vs beseech God of his mercie to giue
vs grace to eschew sinne, the cause of warre and all
miserie, for so the cause being auoyded, the effect
will take no place. Which God graunt for
his glories sake, and the good of all
Christian people.

Farewell.





J. 2. 11

A True declaration of the sledge
layde to the Cittie of Steenwich, and of the
Skirmishes and Battayles which happened
on both sides, very strange and
aduenterous.

1592

Heere is also annexed, in what manner the E-
nimye besought *Count Maurice* to parley
with him, cōcerning the condition of yeel-
ding vp the Cittie into the hands of his Ex-
cellencie.

IT happened, that our No-
ble Prince *Count Maurice* of
Nassaw Gouvernor generall
of the vnited Prouinces, &
the valiant Prince *Count*
William gouernor of *Fries-*
land, hauing assembled a
great power of men and souldiers, on horffe &
foot, as well by sea as by land, being wel pro-
uided of all kinde of munition appertaining to
war, ioyned their forces together and brought
them before the Cittie of *Steenwich*, vppon the

1592

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xxviii. day of May, being *Corpus Christi* day, about nine of the clocke in the morning, where they besieged the said Cittie verie straightlie and strongly, parting their powers into foure Campes, and planting them in foure sundrye places about the Cittie.


Dr. *Parma* had sent into *Steenwich* sixteen companies, of all kind of Nations and people mingled together, among which were diuers free-buyters and marchants, that had been dealers in the betrayeng and selling of *Gertruynberch*.

Also diuers others that had beene at *Deuenter*, and had sworne not to serue against *Count Maurice* in three yeares: with manye more that had reuolted from *Count Maurice* to the enimie, and for some crime or euill act committed, runne from their captaines to escape deserued punishment.

The Enimies seeing that they were so straitly besieged, the Maiestrates and chiefe officers called all the Souldiers vnto them, where they all swore very solemnelie both Souldiers and Citizens to sticke one to the other, and not to forsake one another, but to stande to the full triall of their fortune, and rather to die euery man, then to yeelde to their enemy.

Wherevpon they beganne to resiste the assaults which were by vs made vppon them and valiantlie to defend themselves to the uttermost: insomuch that in the very beginning they

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they slewe and spoiled many pioners and Englishmen. 

The fourth daye of Iune did they of Steen-
wiche make an issue vpon vs, at which time they
slew many Englishmen, and the most parte of
Capt. Olthofs souldiers, besides many whome they
wounded, and fise whome they tooke Pryso-
ners, one of them being an Englishman, whom
they hanged: but we draue them into the Ci-
tie againe so speedilie, that they were forced
to shut out two of their souldiers, whome wee
slew vnder the gates of the Citie.

After this they planted their field peeces on
the top of their towne house steeple, whence
they shot stones, chaines, and iron barres, into
our Campe, which much hurt our Souldiors:
although we were told that they had but seuen
Cannon shot in all.

The sixt day of Iune, Count Maurice, caused
all the great shot to bee discharged vppon the
Cittie, which made such a terrible and fearfull
noise, that the very earth seemed to shake aboue
three miles from the place: beginning at foure
of the clocke in the morning and continueng
till nine: insomuch that there wer aboue four
thousande shottes displaied vppon the Cittie.
But the rampire which our men had made,
was something to lowe, by reason wherof the
bullets flew ouer the Cittie into Counte Williams
Campe, whereby we were compelled to cease

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the

the play of the Cannon.

¶ After which storme they of the Cittie came with broomes to sweepe the walles in a mocketage, least forsooth the dust of the shot should haue fouled the walles, making so light of the matter, as if they had no harme by the cannon that had so furiouslye barked at them all that while, but only that the walles were something strewed with the fragments of the bullets, that being broken into smal peeces, might be swept away with a broome.

¶ The eighteenth day of Iune being Saturday at night and eleuen of the clocke, they issued againe out of the Cittie into our campe, with white linnen shirtes ouer their armour: hauing Axes, Demye-pikes, two hande swordes, and Dagges, but no peeces at all with them. *Oltbos* with his companie hauing drunke well, although he was aduertised of their comminge yet made light of it, and feared not the Enemies at all: who fell vpon him very furiouslye and taking him, not making great preparation to withstand them, slewe *Oltbos* himselfe, his lieutenant, his Corporall, and some of his Souldiers. But our men hauinge intelligence thereof, speedilie forced them to turne their backs and run to their hold.

¶ Our Lord the Counte Maurice caused a kinde of warlike engine had in such cases to be made higher then the Cittie with their loftes, which each

each of them could hold an hundreth manne,
insomuch that no man could by day peepe out
of his house, but he was shot through.

The tops of all the houses in the citty were
broken downe, and nothing could be seen ex-
cept the steeple: and by reason that no bodye
durst come into the streets for fear of our shot,
they broke downe the side walles of their
houses and made a passage through their hou-
ses to come by one another, and to take order
what should be doone: for they beganne to
faint and waxe discouraged with the greate
losse of the people, and the want of powder:
and especially because our men had woon one
of their skonses or fortresses, called the halfe
moone.

Within the Citie of *Steenwich* is a great square
Market place, which they had so strongly for-
tified, that the Cittie being taken, yet it would
be scarce possible to driue the enimie out of it
without losse of men.

The 24 of Iune there were about two hun-
dred Spaniards, Wallons, and Germans toge-
ther slaine and taken, who were sent from
Kaerden, each hauing a little bagge of Gun-
powder about his neck, and thinking by some
subtill sleight to haue entered into the Citie,
and in that manner to haue furnished it with
prouision of powder.

In the end the enimie perceiuing how they

lost their Fortresses, and seeing their forces woonderfully empai red, their prouision sayling, their souldiors slaine and wounded, and all the people astonished with the miserie of their present estate, and terrified with the calamitie which they were like to sustayne if they rendered not in time, began to beseech his excellencie to take them to his mercie, promising that they would yeeld vp the Citie vpon condition that they might saue both their life and goods.

His Excellencie promised vnto them, that he would according to the law of warre suffer their free souldiors to passe without any hurte or harme any way done vnto them, but as for the Merchants of the Berch and certaine other Souldiors that had taken oth in *Deuenter* not to serue against his Excellencie within three yeares after, those he would in any case haue deliuered into his handes to deale with them according to his owne good liking.

This stirred vp a great and sodaine mutinie in the Citie betweene the sayd *Deuenter* souldiors and the Merchants of *Berch* against the Citizens, saieug that they had great wrong offered them, considering they had aduentured their liues and spilt their blood in the behalfe of the citie vpon their promise to doe the like for them, and that nowe they would in their greatest neede leaue them, yea giue them vp into

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into their enimies hands, and therefore they were resoluēd to fight while they could breath against the Citizens themselves, and so die in reuenging the iniurie offred them, rather than to suffer themselves to bee hanged by their enimies.

Wherevpon they sent a drum vnto Count *Maurice* to know of him whether it would not please his Excellencie to let his mercie bee generally graunted vnto all that were in the Citie; for that then the woulde without delaye render vp the citie vnto him? which he would not graunt.

Then our men presentlye blowed vp the Mine which they had made vnder the earth with gunpowder, which being raised on the walles, caused many of their Wallon Captains Ensigns & other Souldiors, to flie vp into the Skie as blacke as crows, which so daunted the courage of the enimies, that they presentlye compounded with Count *Maurice*, and rendered the Citie vpon promise that their life and goods should be saued. In so much that his Excellencie tooke them to his mercie, and gaue to them all as well Souldiors as Citizens both life and goods, suffering no violence or iniurie to bee offered them by his Souldiors, wherevpon they promised that they woulde not serue against him within six moneths after on that side of the riuer *Rhyme*. And so they pas-

led with their Rapier and Dagger through our Campe out of the Citie, carrieng whatsoever they would with them, and were conducted with his Excellencies Horſſe-men nine miles off, hauing carts and waggins allowed them to conuay away their baggage, and maymed perſons with them. For which merciful and gentle dealing, they all greatly thanked his Excellencie. Onely the Merchants of the Berch and Deuenter ſouldiours were driue into the church where they ſtoode at his mercie to bee dealt withall as he ſhould thinke good.

Thus may we thanke almightie God for his
great goodnesse towards vs, in graunting vs so
great a victorie against our enemies, in the
enterprise vndertaken at the Citie of
Steevenyke. The 4 day of Iuly

1592.

Ann 1594. Duke-Moritz
 for-won from by King of
 Spain. by strong force
 called Boon-gan.



Amo 1955

Anno 1596. Ho bene op / founde
 Valley - Poughkeepsie Defaynt Soldier
 for Service in the Dutch War

